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LETTER DATED 19 APRIL 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CAMBODIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to bring to your attention the statement issued on 18 April 1999 by the Cabinet of the Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia concerning the Government's position on the issue of the trial of Khmer Rouge leaders, as set forth by His Excellency Samdech Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia, during his meeting with John Kerry, a United States Senator, on 6 April 1999 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a Security Council document.

(Signed) Ouch BORITH
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

[Original: English]

Statement made on 18 April 1999 by the Cabinet of Samdech Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia

In the meeting with the Senator of the United States of America John Kerry on 6 April 1999, while touching upon the issue of the trial of Khmer Rouge leaders, Samdech Hun Sen affirmed to Senator Kerry the following information:

1. To meet international standards, the trial of Ta Mok, the Khmer Rouge leader, would be conducted by the existing national court with the assistance from foreign countries, in which foreign judges and prosecutors would be allowed to take part. Cambodia would enact additional pieces of legislation in order to allow foreign judges and prosecutors to participate in the domestic trial.

2. The indictment and prosecution of other Khmer Rouge leaders are the sole competence of the court. The Royal Government is not entitled to give orders to the judicial branch to do this or that.

Upon receiving these assurances from Samdech Prime Minister Hun Sen, Senator John Kerry welcomed the positive position of the Cambodian Prime Minister.